

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Coast Guard****[CDG 98-002]****Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee; Request for Applications****AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DOT.**ACTION:** Request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is seeking applicants to serve on the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC). MERPAC is a 19-member Federal Advisory Committee appointed by the Secretary of Transportation to advise the Coast Guard on matters related to the training, qualification, licensing, certification, and fitness of seamen serving in the U.S. merchant marine.

DATES: Membership applications should be received no later than April 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Persons interested in serving on MERPAC may obtain an application form by writing to Commandant (G-MSO-1), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 2nd St., SW., Washington, DC 20593-0001, or by calling (800) 842-8740 ext. 7-6890, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Requests for application forms may also be faxed to (202) 267-4570.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Commander Steven J. Boyle, Executive Director, or Mr. Mark Gould, Assistant Executive Director, at the above address or by telephone at (202) 267-0214.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: MERPAC is chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2) to advise the Coast Guard on merchant marine personnel issues such as implementation of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, types of marine simulation utilized in lieu of sea service for marine licenses, and regional examination center activities. Seven current appointments expire in January 1998.

Applicants with one or more of the following backgrounds are needed to fill the positions:

- (a) Deck officer.
- (b) Three marine educator representatives.
- (c) Engineering officer.
- (d) Public representative.
- (e) Unlicensed engineer.

The membership term is 3 years. No member may hold more than two consecutive 3-year terms.

To achieve the desired balance of membership, the Coast Guard is

especially interested in receiving applications from minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. The members of the Committee serve without compensation from the Federal Government; however, travel reimbursement and per diem will be provided. The MERPAC Committee normally meets twice a year, once in Washington, DC, and once elsewhere in the country. Working group meetings may be authorized for specific problems as required.

Applicants may be required to complete an Executive Branch Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (SF 450).

Joseph J. Angelo,*Director of Standards, Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.*

[FR Doc. 98-2590 Filed 2-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****[Summary Notice No. PE-97-66]****Petitions for Exemption; Summary of Petitions Received; Dispositions of Petitions Issued****AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice of petitions for exemption received and of dispositions of prior petitions.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption (14 CFR Part 11), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions seeking relief from specified requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Chapter I), dispositions of certain petitions previously received, and corrections. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of any petition or its final disposition.

DATES: Comments on petitions received must identify the petition docket number involved and must be received on or before February 23, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on any petition in triplicate to: Federal Aviation Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel, Attn: Rule Docket (AGC-200), Petition Docket No. _____, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591.

Comments may also be sent electronically to the following internet address: 9-NPRM-CMTS@faa.dot.gov.

The petition, any comments received, and a copy of any final disposition are filed in the assigned regulatory docket and are available for examination in the Rules Docket (AGC-200), Room 915G, FAA Headquarters Building (FOB 10A), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591; telephone (202) 267-3132.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tawana Matthews (202) 267-9783 or Angela Anderson (202) 267-9681 Office of Rulemaking (ARM-1), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to paragraphs (c), (e), and (g) of § 11.27 of Part 11 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Part 11).

Issued in Washington, D.C., on January 29, 1998.

Donald P. Byrne,*Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations.***Petition for Exemption***Docket No.: 28824.**Petitioner:* Triad International Maintenance Corporation.*Regulations Affected:* 25.807(c)(1).

Description of Petition: To exempt TIMCO from the requirements of 14 CFR 25.807(c)(1) to permit the deactivation of the R-1 passenger emergency exit of a Boeing 767-200 Freighter aircraft.

*Docket No.: 29096.**Petitioner:* Guam Institute of Aviation Technology.*Sections of the FAR Affected:* 14 CFR 147.31(c)(1).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit the petitioner to credit a student with instruction or previous experience that was not completed at an accredited university, college, or junior college, an accredited vocational, technical, trade, or high school; a military technical school; or a certificated aviation maintenance technical school.

*Docket No.: 29075.**Petitioner:* Mercy Medical Center Redding.*Sections of the FAR Affected:* 14 CFR 135.213(a).

Description of Relief Sought: To permit the petitioner to conduct fixed-wing emergency medical system departures under instrument flight rules in weather that is at or above visual flight rules minimums from airports at which a weather report is not available from the U.S. National Weather Service (NWS), a source approved by the NWS, or a source approved by the FAA Administrator.

Docket No.: 29051.
Petitioner: AOPA Air Safety Foundation.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 61.197(a)(2)(iii).
Description of Relief Sought: To permit graduates of Federal Aviation Administration approved flight instructor refresher courses to renew their flight instructor certificates more than 90 days before their expiration month.

Dispositions of Petitions

Docket No.: 29046.
Petitioner: Hiller Aircraft Corporation.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 47.65.

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit petitioner to obtain a Dealer's Aircraft Registration Certificate without meeting the United States citizenship requirements. *GRANT, January 15, 1998, Exemption No. 6717.*

Docket No.: 29058.
Petitioner: John Leo Heverling.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 91.109 (a) and (b)(3).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit petitioner to conduct certain flight instruction and simulated instrument flights to meet recent instrument experience requirements in certain Beechcraft airplanes equipped with a functioning throwover control wheel in place of functioning dual controls. *GRANT, January 15, 1998, Exemption No. 6719.*

Docket No.: 29011.
Petitioner: Atlantic Coast Airlines.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 61.57(e), 121.433(c)(1)(iii), 121.441(a)(1) and (b)(1), and appendix F.

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to conduct an FAA-monitored training program under which Atlantic Coast Airlines pilots in command and seconds in command meet ground and flight recurrent training and proficiency check requirements through a single visit training program. *GRANT, January 15, 1998, Exemption No. 5783D.*

Docket No.: 29076.
Petitioner: Million Air.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to operate its Hawker aircraft (Registration No. N745TS, Serial No. NA.745) without a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed. *GRANT, January 15, 1998, Exemption No. 6718.*

Docket No.: 27122.
Petitioner: Air Tractor, Inc.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 61.31(a)(1).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit Air Tractor and pilots of Air Tractor AT-802 and AT-802A airplanes to operate those airplanes without holding a type rating, although the maximum gross weight of the airplanes exceeds 12,500 pounds. *GRANT, January 15, 1998, Exemption No. 5651D.*

Docket No.: 27052.
Petitioner: Petroleum Helicopters, Inc.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to operate its Bell Model 206L-1 helicopters (Registration Nos. N2761X, N5005B, N50182, and N50046, and Serial Nos. 45283, 45175, 45242, and 45173, respectively) without having a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed on those aircraft. *GRANT, January 15, 1998, Exemption No. 5586B.*

Docket No.: 28964.
Petitioner: Raytheon Aircraft Company.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 21.325(b)(1).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to obtain export airworthiness approvals for parts that were manufactured or located outside of the United States. *GRANT, December 31, 1998, Exemption No. 6720.*

Docket No.: 29059.
Petitioner: Trans West Air Services, Inc.,
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c)(2).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to operate its Aerospatiale SA-365N2 Dauphin helicopter (Registration No. N886TW, Serial No. 6413) without a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed. *GRANT, January 6, 1998, Exemption No. 6716.*

Docket No.: 26669.
Petitioner: Evergreen International Airlines, Inc.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 121.583(a)(8).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit up to three dependents of Evergreen employees, who are accompanied by an employee sponsor traveling on official business only and are trained and qualified in the operation of emergency equipment on Evergreen's Boeing 747 cargo aircraft, to be added to the list of persons specified in 14 CFR 121.583(a)(8) that Evergreen is authorized to transport without complying with certain passenger-carrying airplane requirements of part 121. *GRANT, January 21, 1998, Exemption No. 6443A.*

Docket No.: 28115.
Petitioner: Aero Flight Service, Inc.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c)(2).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to operate certain aircraft under part 135 without a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed in those aircraft. *GRANT, January 21, 1998, Exemption No. 6084A.*

Docket No.: 28103.
Petitioner: Silverhawk Aviation, Inc.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c)(2).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to operate certain aircraft under part 135 without a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed. *GRANT, January 21, 1998, Exemption No. 6065A.*

Docket No.: 28496.
Petitioner: Bohle International Airways.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c)(2).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to operate its Rockwell Turbo Commander 681 airplane (Registration No. N113CT, Serial No. 6006) without a TSO-C112 (Mode S) transponder installed. *GRANT, January 21, 1998, Exemption No. 6454A.*

Docket No.: 28455.
Petitioner: Sound Flight, Inc.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.203(a)(1).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to conduct operations under visual flight rules outside controlled airspace at an altitude below 500 feet above ground level. *GRANT, January 21, 1998, Exemption No. 6428A.*

Docket No.: 28092.
Petitioner: B2W Corporation.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.143(c)(2).

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit the petitioner to operate its aircraft under the provisions of part 135 without a TSO-C112 transponder installed. *GRANT, January 21, 1998, Exemption No. 6083A.*

Docket No.: 28170.
Petitioner: Simulator Training, Inc.
Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 121.411(a)(2) and (3), and (b)(2); 121.413(b), (c), and (d) and appendix H.

Description of Relief Sought/Disposition: To permit certain pilot and flight engineer instructors employed by the petitioner and listed in an air carrier certificate holder's approved training program to act as simulator instructors for an air carrier certificate holder under part 121 without those instructors

having received ground and flight training in accordance with a training program approved under subpart N of part 121. *GRANT, January 16, 1998, Exemption No. 6721.*

Docket No.: 137CE.

Petitioner: Air Tractor, Inc.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 23.3(a).

Description of Relief Sought/

Disposition: To permit the petitioner, a normal category airplane, to exceed the 12,500 pound limitation for this category of airplane. *DENIAL, December 31, 1998, Exemption No. 6715.*

Docket No.: 29085.

Petitioner: ACM Aviation, Inc.

Sections of the FAR Affected: 14 CFR 135.263(a) and 135.267(b), (c), and (d).

Description of Relief Sought/

Disposition: To permit the petitioner to assign its flight crewmembers and allow its flight crewmembers to accept a flight assignment of up to 16 hours of flight time during a 24-hour period, for the purpose of conducting international operations. *DENIAL, January 21, 1998, Exemption No. 6722.*

[FR Doc. 98-2588 Filed 2-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Impact Statement: Madison, Wayne and Butler Counties, Missouri

AGENCY: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared for proposed improvements to the transportation system in Madison, Wayne, and Butler Counties, Missouri.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donald Neumann, Programs Engineer, FHWA Division Office, PO Box 1787, Jefferson City, MO 65102, Telephone: (573) 636-7104 or Scott Meyer, District Engineer, Missouri Department of Transportation, PO Box 160, Sikeston, MO 63801, Telephone: (573) 472-5333.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FHWA, in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), will prepare an EIS for a proposed project to improve the transportation system in the vicinity of U.S. 67 in Madison, Wayne and Butler Counties, Missouri.

Improvements to the corridor are considered necessary to provide for a

safe and efficient transportation network. Alternatives under consideration include (1) Taking no action; (2) using alternate travel modes; (3) upgrading and improving the existing roadways; and (4) constructing a four-lane roadway on new or partially-new location. Design variations of grade and alignment will be incorporated into and studied with the various build alternatives. The proposed action will likely include transportation improvements from south of Fredericktown to approximately three miles north of the Missouri/Arkansas state line, in the vicinity of Neeleyville, Missouri.

The scoping process will involve all appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and private organizations and citizens who have previously expressed or are known to have interest in this proposal. A series of public meetings will be held to engage the regional community in the decision making process and to obtain public comment. A public meeting is expected for early 1998. Subsequent public meetings will be conducted as the location study process progresses. In addition, a public hearing will be held to present the findings of the draft EIS (DEIS). The DEIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA or MoDOT at the addresses provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12373 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: January 15, 1998.

Donald L. Neumann,

Programs Engineer, Jefferson City.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION [4910-22-P]

Federal Highway Administration

Federal Transit Administration

National ITS Architecture Consistency Meetings

AGENCIES: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a series of regional meetings at which DOT will discuss national ITS architecture consistency as it relates to highway and transit improvements that incorporate Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). It is anticipated that the upcoming surface transportation reauthorization bill will require federally funded projects which contain ITS elements to be consistent with the National ITS Architecture and approved standards. In anticipation, DOT is initiating a series of outreach meetings to engage a broad range of stakeholders in discussions regarding consistency requirements. These meetings will be of interest to those involved in the planning, design and implementation of technology applications in transportation. The first meeting will be held in the Boston area. Regional meetings are also planned for March in Houston, TX and Los Angeles, CA; specific dates and locations will be published at a later date. Additional meetings are proposed for April and May.

DATES: The Boston area meeting will be held February 25-26, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on February 25th and from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on February 26th.

ADDRESSES: The Boston area meeting will be held at the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, 55 Broadway, Kendall Square, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National ITS Architecture is a master blueprint for building an integrated, multimodal, intelligent transportation system. It provides a common framework that define key elements required for ITS functions. As such, it is an invaluable resource for planners, builders, designers, and operators of highway and transit systems to use in extending and integrating their systems operations.

A general introduction to ITS will be provided, but presentations will assume a basic awareness of technology applications in transportation. The